

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A reusable device for protecting an electronic component from electrostatic discharge (ESD), comprising:
  - 3 a substrate having a coupling region being adapted for detachable coupling to at least one of a cable and another device;
  - 5 at least one diode coupled to the substrate; and
  - 6 contact leads coupled to the coupling region of the substrate, the contact leads  
7 being in electrical communication with the at least one diode.
- 1 2. A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the substrate is flexible.
- 1 3. A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the substrate is substantially resilient.
- 1 4. A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the at least one diode includes crossed  
2 diodes.
- 1 5. A device as recited in claim 4, wherein the crossed diodes include multiple diodes  
2 aligned in series in each direction.



6 contact leads coupled to the coupling region of the substrate, the contact leads  
7 being in electrical communication with the at least one diode.

1 13. A device as recited in claim 12, wherein the substrate is flexible.

1 14. A device as recited in claim 12, wherein the substrate is substantially resilient.

1 15. A device as recited in claim 12, wherein each pair of crossed diodes include  
2 multiple diodes aligned in series in each direction.

1 16. A device as recited in claim 15, wherein a number of diodes in one bias direction  
2 is different than a number of diodes in another bias direction.

1 17. A device as recited in claim 12, wherein the diodes have a response time of less  
2 than about 20 nanoseconds.

1 18. A device as recited in claim 12, wherein the diodes are contained in a chip,  
2 wherein the chip is coupled to the substrate.

1 19. A device as recited in claim 12, wherein a compression fitting is used to couple  
2 the coupling region of the substrate to the cable or the other device.

1    20. A device as recited in claim 12, wherein the device is used during testing of tape  
2                   heads.

1    21. A device as recited in claim 12, wherein the device is used during testing of disk  
2                   heads.

1    22. A reusable device for protecting a magnetic head from electrostatic discharge  
2                   (ESD) during testing of the magnetic head, comprising:  
3                   a substrate having first and second coupling regions, the first coupling region  
4                   being adapted for coupling to a cable, the second coupling region being  
5                   adapted for detachable coupling to at least one of a second cable and  
6                   another device;

7                   crossed diodes coupled to the substrate, a pair of the crossed diodes being present  
8                   for each element of the magnetic head being tested, each pair of crossed  
9                   diodes including multiple diodes aligned in series in each direction,  
10                  wherein the diodes have a response time of less than about 20  
11                  nanoseconds; and

12                 contact leads coupled to the coupling region of the substrate, the contact leads  
13                 being in electrical communication with the crossed diodes.